

NIC 05823/84

The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

SP - 221/84
12 October 1984
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution

FROM: Lawrence K. Gershwin
National Intelligence Officer for Strategic Programs

SUBJECT: Interagency Offensive Missiles Deployment
Working Group

1. As you may know, I recently convened an ad hoc interagency working group to resolve various issues raised by the SS-20 deployment controversy. The group, consisting of analysts from CIA, DIA, NSA, INR, NPIC, and Air Force Intelligence, has been working well. I would like to utilize this approach on a continuing basis as the Community addresses similar deployment-related issues.

2. Accordingly, I am establishing a broader-based, permanent interagency intelligence working group on offensive missiles deployment. This group will be responsible for reviewing and establishing an Intelligence Community position on Soviet offensive missile deployments similar to the DCI's Weapon and Space Systems Intelligence Committee's charge for technical judgments. The group will:

- Develop common criteria for identifying various phases of activity prior to deployment;
- Develop common criteria for characterizing the likelihood of a particular site being for a particular weapon system;
- Ensure that terminology is consistent.

At present, these functions are accomplished on an ad hoc basis, through preparation of the NID and various messages from individual agencies. This method is clearly inadequate, and frequently leads to confusion in both the policy and intelligence communities. We need good interagency work on deployments similar to WSSIC's input for our National Intelligence Estimates. The Civil Defense Working Group, which operates under NIO/SP

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auspices, is also a good example of the kind of national intelligence work I am looking for in this instance. The types of weapons systems covered by the new deployment working group will include ICBMs, MR/IRBMs, SLBMs, and long-range cruise missiles. I anticipate we will be dealing with the following kinds of problems in the near future:

- Criteria for missile deployments;
- Introduction of new ICBMs;
- Retirement of older ICBMs;
- SLCM and GLCM deployments.

3. The composition of the permanent working group will be analysts from CIA, DIA, INR, NSA, and NPIC; depending on the particular systems under discussion, Air Force and Navy Intelligence will be included, and members of the Arms Control Intelligence Staff will sit in. The group will be under the direction of the NIO for Strategic Programs. I have designated [redacted] of CIA/SOVA to chair the new group. I would ask that all agencies' representatives to the working group be prepared to speak authoritatively for their agencies at the meetings and be able to obtain information and achieve coordination quickly from their agencies. Without such an understanding, the working group cannot function effectively. We intend to hold regular monthly meetings (a regular date will be determined at our first meeting), with the agenda formulated in advance. However, we will often be asked to do our work on an ad hoc, fast turnaround basis, and agency representatives should be prepared to meet some tight deadlines.

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4. I am sensitive to the possible concern that individual agencies' prerogatives and normal individual intelligence functions would be deemphasized, and I want to assure you that I will guard against this happening. I am also conscious of DIA's responsibility for order of battle data for use by the commands and for targeting; I believe we can conduct the working group in such a way that the responsibility of DIA analysts will not be impaired. The ad hoc SS-20 working group should provide a model, and I think all the analysts who participated would agree that the advantages of an interagency working group clearly outweighed the disadvantages.

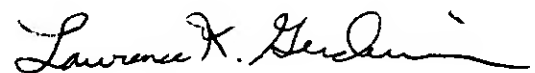
5. Please provide the names of your agency representatives, mailing address, and phone number and the name of one alternate, to [redacted] or [redacted]

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no later than

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26 October 1984.



Lawrence K. Gershwin

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